

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1835
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014
AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENTS TO FARMERS
Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay;Kishore Shri Kaushal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers including small and marginal in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has developed several low cost agricultural technology/ equipments suitable for small holdings and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has provided/proposes to provide such agricultural technology to small and marginal farmers on subsidized rate through various centrally sponsored programmes in the country;
- (d) if so, the details of financial assistance/subsidy provided to the farmers for purchasing such equipments/technologies there under in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure easy access of farm technology for the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a): Based on Agriculture Census 2010-2011, number of operational holdings of all size groups and number of small & marginal operational holders in the country is given in Annexure-I.

(b): Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal with its Regional Station at Coimbatore and 24 Centres on "Farm Implements and Machinery" are mandated to develop agro-machineries to cater to the requirement of various crops and commodities, agro-climatic regions and socio economic conditions of farmers through prototype feasibility testing, prototype manufacturing, front-line demonstrations, on- farm trials on farmers' fields etc. Various farm equipment and machinery suitable for different regions of the country have been developed.

(c) & (d): Funds are released to the State Governments for providing assistance to the farmers for purchase of agricultural equipments. The funds are released on basis of work plan proposals of State Governments under the following major schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

1. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
2. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
3. National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)
4. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)

Funds are provided as per the extant guidelines of each scheme which envisage providing subsidy @ 25 to 50 percent of the cost of equipment/implement with ceiling limits.

Details of funds allocated/released to the State Governments during the last three years and the current year, State-wise under the schemes of Department is given at Annexure-II.

(e): Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes provides training to the farmers on operation, repair and maintenance of agricultural machines and equipments. Demonstrations of the technologies are also conducted on the farmer' field. ATMA, Mass Media and Kisan Call Centre (KCC) Schemes disseminate relevant information for adoption of appropriate technologies. A nation-wide SMS Portal for Farmers has enabled all departments and organizations to send information and give advisories to farmers in their local languages, in respect of their location, preferences of crops/agricultural practices etc. The State Agriculture Universities undertake Farmer Advisory Services, including publishing useful material for farmers and conducting training of extension personnel. Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras have Extension Outreach Programmes and also conduct on-farm trials and frontline demonstrations for various agricultural technologies.